GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1001
ANSWERED ON:27.07.2015
Passenger Safety and Amenities in Suburban Trains
Panda Shri Baijayant "Jay"

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of action taken by the Railways on improving passenger safety and passenger amenities in suburban train services across the country; and

(b) the steps taken to improve the safety and security of women passengers in suburban trains?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a) & (b): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

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STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) & (b) OF UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 1001 BY SHRI BAIJAYANT JAY PANDA TO BE ANSWERED IN LOK SABHA ON 27.07.2015 REGARDING PASSENGER SAFETY AND AMENITIES IN SUBURBAN TRAINS.

(a): Measures taken by Indian Railways for improving passenger safety and passenger amenities in suburban trains are as follows:
â€¢ The suburban train coaches made in Integral Coach Factory, Chennai, have features of cushioned seats in First Class and Polycarbonate seats in Second Class for better aesthetics and passenger comfort. These coaches also have provision of forced air ventilation, passenger information and announcement system, stainless steel fixtures, Light Emitting Diode (LED) tube lights, etc. Other features for passenger safety include, stainless steel coach body, improved design rigid hand holds, slip free grab pole, etc. in the coaches.
â€¢ Facilitating passengers and reducing trespassing by building of more Foot Over Bridges, provision of escalators and lifts, blocking gaps in the boundary walls on either side, fencing of the area between two platforms so that the people are not tempted to jump from one platform to another by crossing tracks, Reducing gap between coaches and platforms.
â€¢ Stringent and regular inspection of all safety items are carried out during scheduled inspections as specified by Research Design and Standards Organization (RDSO).
â€¢ In Western Railway suburban system Auxiliary Warning System is in place to prevent collision in case of Signal Passing at Danger (SPAD).
â€¢ Public awareness campaigns are organized by Railway Protection Force (RPF) to brief the public about the hazards of crossing tracks, roof top traveling and stunts.

(b): Policing on Railways is a State subject and prevention of crime, registration of cases and their investigation in railway premises as well as on running trains including in suburban train service across the country are the statutory responsibility of the State Governments, which they discharge through Government Railway Police (GRP) of the States concerned. However, Railway Protection Force (RPF) supplements the efforts of Government Railway Police by deploying its staff for escorting of important trains in affected areas and access control duties at important and sensitive stations.
The following measures are being taken by the Railways to ensure safe and secure journey to the passengers including women passengers:
â€¢ Ladies special trains are being escorted by lady RPF staff, wherever available, in sub-urban sections.
â€¢ The ladies compartments in local trains are being escorted by RPF and GRP during peak /non-peak hours. Staff deployment is made during late night and early morning local trains to ensure proper security to the lady passengers.
â€¢ Shakti Mahila teams headed by Lady RPF officers and Nirbhaya Squad headed by GRP official have been formed over Central Railway to act against the offenders harassing women passengers.
â€¢ 12 Mahila Vahinis (women RPF companies) have been sanctioned to strengthen security of women passengers in suburban section of metropolitan cities.
â€¢ Security Help-Line number 182 has become operational in Zonal Railways' Control Rooms to enable passengers to seek security related assistance on real time basis.
â€¢ A daily average of 1300 trains are escorted by Railway Protection Force. In addition 2200 trains are escorted by Government Railway Police of different States.
â€¢ To empower the RPF to create a more effective security mechanism over Indian Railways, a proposal for amendment in the RPF Act has been moved by the Ministry of Railways with the approval of the Ministries of Law and Justice and Home Affairs.

â€¢ An Integrated Security System (ISS) including electronic surveillance through Close Circuit Television (CCTV) to enhance security over 202 sensitive and vulnerable railway stations is under implementation.
â€¢ RPF holds regular coordination meetings with State Police at all levels to ensure proper registration and investigation of crime by GRP.
â€¢ A Mobile App named "M-Indicator" has been launched by Railways in Mumbai Sub-urban section in the Month of January, 2015.
â€¢ Regular Drives against man entering coaches reserved for ladies by RPF under section 162 of the Railways Act.

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